

(b) Section 104(a) is amended by adding at the end: “, except that the Homeland Security Council is the principal forum for consideration of policy relating to terrorist threats and attacks within the United States.”

(c) Section 104(b) is amended by inserting the words “and the Homeland Security Council” after the words “National Security Council.”

(d) The first sentence of section 104(c) is amended by inserting the words “and the Homeland Security Council” after the words “National Security Council.”

(e) The second sentence of section 104(c) is replaced with the following two sentences: “Pursuant to such procedures for the organization and management of the National Security Council and Homeland Security Council processes as the President may establish, the Director of the Federal Emergency Management Agency also shall assist in the implementation of and management of those processes as the President may establish. The Director of the Federal Emergency Management Agency also shall assist in the implementation of national security emergency preparedness policy by coordinating with the other Federal departments and agencies and with State and local governments, and by providing periodic reports to the National Security Council and the Homeland Security Council on implementation of national security emergency preparedness policy.”

(f) Section 201(7) is amended by inserting the words “and the Homeland Security Council” after the words “National Security Council.”

(g) Section 206 is amended by inserting the words “and the Homeland Security Council” after the words “National Security Council.”

(h) Section 208 is amended by inserting the words “or the Homeland Security Council” after the words “National Security Council.”

George W. Bush

The White House,
October 8, 2001.

[Filed with the Office of the Federal Register,
12:12 p.m., October 9, 2001]

NOTE: This Executive order was published in the *Federal Register* on October 10.

Remarks on Signing the Columbus Day Proclamation

October 8, 2001

Thank you very much. I'm glad I invited you. [Laughter] Thank you all for coming. Laura and I are delighted to have you here to celebrate Columbus Day. Since 1934, when Franklin Roosevelt first proclaimed the national holiday, our entire Nation has observed Columbus Day to mark that moment when the Old World met the New. We honor the man from Genoa and the vision that carried him throughout his 10-week voyage. And we recognize—as well, we recognize the unique contributions that people of Italian descent have made here in our country for more than five centuries.

Italian-Americans were among the many public servants last month who gave extraordinary service in an hour of dire emergency. Some are with us today. The fire department of Arlington, Virginia, was first on the scene after the attack on the Pentagon. And we're so honored to have Battalion Chief Jim Bonzano with us today.

We have representatives of the New York Police and Fire Departments with us, representatives of people who showed incredible bravery and sacrifice and determination. Please welcome Joe Esposito and Chief Dan Nigro.

Chief Nigro is the successor of Peter Ganci, Jr., whom I had the privilege of meeting 2 years ago. Chief Ganci gave his life at the World Trade Center and was laid to rest on September the 15th. We're so delighted today to have heroes here representing the Ganci family, his wife, his two sons, and his daughters. Welcome, and thank you for being here.

I can't remember if it was Chris or Peter III who looked out at the South Lawn and said, “God, I wish Dad were here. He could hit a three wood right over the fence.” [Laughter] I said, “It might make him nervous; he might shank it into the water.” [Laughter] He said, “No, you don't know my dad.”

I want to thank the Sons of Italy who have joined us today, as well as the leadership of the National Italian American Foundation and UNICO National who are here, as well. Thank you all for coming.

Ambassador Salleo from Italy, we're so glad you're here, and thank you for bringing your wife with you, as well. I just got off the phone call with your Prime Minister, Prime Minister Berlusconi, who is a good friend of mine and a good friend of America's. He sends his best, by the way. Welcome.

I want to thank the Members of Congress who are here. Thank you all for coming. And I also am so pleased that the first Italian-American to serve on our Supreme Court has agreed to join us, as well. Justice Scalia, thank you for being here, sir.

I'm proud to have a number of Italian-Americans in my administration. A member of my Cabinet unfortunately is not here, but I can assure you he's doing a great job, and that's Tony Principi—so proud of Tony's service to the veterans of our country. He's doing a really outstanding job.

As you know, that sometimes we have to do battle on Capitol Hill. I try to avoid those battles, but occasionally it has to happen. And therefore, I picked an Italian-American to lead that battle for the White House—[laughter]—Nick Calio. Where are you, Nick? There you are. I know Congresswoman Pelosi is saying, all you've got to do is do it the way she tells you to, and things will be fine. [Laughter] I'm also honored that Gian-Carlo Peressutti of my staff has put this event together. And I want to thank Gian-Carlo, as well, for his hard work.

Our White House has been—has welcomed many entertainers before. And today we have the honor of welcoming a lady who you all know well, whose mom had entertained at the White House years ago. She entertained the Kennedys. And today, after I sign the proclamation, Liza Minnelli has agreed to entertain us in this beautiful room in this beautiful house of the people.

I was in New York last week. Like all Americans, I am amazed at what a great job the New York City folks are doing, the spirit of New York, the willingness for people to pull together and to help a neighbor in need.

And I'm most impressed by the character of the leadership there, two people of Italian heritage, I might add, the Governor—[laughter]—and Mayor Rudy Giuliani.

The evil ones thought they were going to hurt us, and they did to a certain extent. But what they really did was, they enabled the world to see the true character and compassion and spirit of our country, and no finer example than that in New York City.

This Columbus Day should be one of deep pride for all Americans—all Americans—especially those for Italian descent. From the very beginning of our country, the sons and daughters of Italy have brought honor to themselves and have enriched our national life. In the beauty of this Capital City, we see the hand of Italian immigrants who spent more than 10 years carving the great seated figure in the Lincoln Memorial, who adorned the National Cathedral with statues, and who graced the dome and corridors of the Capitol building with magnificent art.

Our freedom itself was gained with the help of three Italian regiments that crossed the Atlantic to fight in the Revolutionary War. Our Declaration of Independence bears the signature of two Italian-Americans. In later struggle, dozens of Italian-Americans would receive the Medal of Honor. And today, when Americans pay tribute to "The Greatest Generation," we have in mind people like Captain Don Gentile, the fighting ace who General Eisenhower described as a "one-man air force."

Take any field of endeavor, any achievement of this country, and Italian-Americans are part of it. For generation after generation, the success of our country has drawn heavily from the industry and resourcefulness of Italian immigrants and their families. The same can be said for the values that make us a great nation. The millions who came here brought with them a distinct strength of character, faith in God, devotion to family, and love of life.

This summer I visited Genoa, where 550 years ago Christopher Columbus was born. All around that vibrant, modern city are glimpses of the ancient civilization that still inspires the world's admiration and always will. In so many ways, that culture has added to our own, first on three small ships, then

on many more. It is our good fortune to be an immigrant nation, to be the keepers of traditions and gifts that have come to us from great nations like Italy. More than 15 million Americans claim Italian heritage. And all Americans have reason to be grateful, because we would be poorer without it.

I now have the singular honor of signing the official document proclaiming October 8th, 2001, as Columbus Day in the United States of America.

NOTE: The President spoke at 3:09 p.m. in the East Room at the White House. In his remarks, he referred to James Bonzano, battalion chief, Arlington County Fire Department; Joseph J. Esposito, chief, New York City Police Department; Daniel A. Nigro, chief, Fire Department-City of New York; Kathleen Ganci, widow of New York City Fire Department Chief Peter Ganci, Jr., and their children, Christopher, Peter III, and Danielle; Ambassador Fernando Salleo, Italian Ambassador to the United States, and his wife, Anna Maria; Prime Minister Silvio Berlusconi of Italy; Gov. George E. Pataki of New York; and Mayor Rudolph W. Giuliani of New York City.

Proclamation 7482—Columbus Day, 2001

October 8, 2001

*By the President of the United States
of America*

A Proclamation

More than 500 years ago, Christopher Columbus set sail from Spain on his historic voyage to what would be called the “New World.” His celebrated journey inaugurated an age of exploration that changed the course of history and enormously expanded our understanding of the world. Columbus’ willingness to brave the unknown led to his remarkable find, bringing about further explorations that enormously enhanced the intellectual, commercial, and demographic fabric of Europe and the Americas. The stories of Columbus’ voyage became a symbol of the quest for knowledge and understanding of the world, and it laid the historical foundation upon which much of America’s future progress was built.

Reflecting on Christopher Columbus’ legacy, we remember his great courage in

choosing to sail across uncharted waters, we recall the power of his adventurous spirit, and we are inspired by his willingness to assume considerable risks for the sake of knowledge and progress. These virtues have been echoed down through history by some of America’s greatest pioneers, from Meriwether Lewis and William Clark’s daring explorations of our western frontier to the Apollo astronauts planting the American flag on the moon. Our Nation continues to follow the example of Columbus’ bold desire to push the horizon, pursuing new paths of research and using our discoveries to benefit all of mankind.

Columbus’ voyage represented the first linking of the lands and cultures separated by the Atlantic Ocean, and it served as a precursor to the close ties that exist today between America and Europe. His discovery connected continents separated by substantial geographic, religious, and cultural barriers; and America has since formed partnerships with nations across the seas that have sought to overcome those and other barriers through agreements affecting such areas as trade, human rights, and military support.

In commemoration of Columbus’ momentous journey 509 years ago, the Congress, by joint resolution of April 30, 1934 (48 Stat. 657), and an Act of June 28, 1968 (82 Stat. 250), has requested that the President proclaim the second Monday of October of each year as “Columbus Day.”

Now, Therefore, I, George W. Bush, President of the United States of America, do hereby proclaim October 8, 2001, as Columbus Day. I urge the people of the United States to reflect on the contributions of Christopher Columbus with appropriate means of celebration. I also direct that the flag of the United States be displayed on all public buildings on the appointed day in honor of Christopher Columbus.

In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand this eighth day of October, in the year of our Lord two thousand one, and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred and twenty-sixth.

George W. Bush

[Filed with the Office of the Federal Register, 8:54 a.m., October 10, 2001]